

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Wednesday, June 18, 2008

R-2663
202/273-1991
www.nlrb.gov

**KATHLEEN JAMES IS NAMED NLRB'S
DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION**

Kathleen James has been selected as the Agency's new Deputy Director of Administration. Ms. James comes to the National Labor Relations Board by way of the Office of Training and Knowledge Management in the Office of the Secretary at the Department of Commerce where she was instrumental in enterprise systems implementation and leadership development. She has been involved in administrative management, training, and instructional technology since 1974. She earned a M.A. degree from Purdue University, a Ph.D. degree at the University of Maryland at College Park, and is a graduate of the Senior Executive Service Candidate Development Program at the Department of State. She was detailed to the State Department's Bureau of Legislative Affairs for an assignment that took her to Capitol Hill where she played a key role in expanding the fledgling Congressional Liaison Office.

After having taught at the junior high/high school, university, and adult levels for ten years, Ms. James managed a university media center and was tapped to plan and direct a residential language immersion program for a hundred students studying seven languages at the University of Maryland. She left academia in 1992 to join the Department of State at the Foreign Service Institute where she served in progressively more responsible positions as Language Training Supervisor, Director of Multimedia and Library Services, and Associate Dean for Management. She initiated and expanded a cutting edge distance learning curriculum beginning in 1995 that now boasts over one hundred custom-designed self-study and instructor-led online courses. Furthermore, she contributed directly to Secretary Colin Powell's **Diplomatic Readiness Initiative** by conceptualizing the *Language Continuum* and working with a team of HR specialists to analyze and propose new hiring policies for Foreign Service Officers.

Ms. James joined the Department of Health and Human Services in 2005 as director of HHS University, a fee-for-service organization that manages the department's leadership development programs and common needs training. At the Department of Commerce, she has led the implementation of an enterprise learning management system, the Commerce Learning Center, serving over 50,000 employees. Twelve weeks from contract award to system implementation was record-breaking. She chaired the Commerce Learning Center Governance Board and led six to eight teams comprised of over 50 volunteers from the twelve agencies that constitute the Department of Commerce. At both HHS and Commerce, Kathy led efforts to meet

OMB milestones under the *eGov Initiative* of the **President's Management Agenda** and ensured that both agencies achieved green on the scorecard related to Enterprise Human Resources Integration (EHRI).

Among other things, Ms. James has extensive financial management, supervisory, and staff development expertise. She has been an invited guest speaker on the academic and federal conference circuit. Her interagency and cross-disciplinary experience will serve her well in her new position.

In announcing the appointment, Director of Administration, Gloria Joseph, commented:

Kathy's background clearly demonstrates that she can be both a visionary, strategic-thinking, solution-focused leader, as well as a nuts-and-bolts, "shirtsleeve" manager. Both sets of skills will be highly valued in this position. Kathy's knowledge, energy, and creativity will be major assets to the organization. I look forward to years of fruitful collaboration with her.

###